

# **Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable**

## **Zoom Meeting**

**August 20, 2020 1:00 pm.**

## **Minutes**

In attendance: Paul Chapman (NALT), Kayla Harris (NRWR Coordinator), Andrew McNaughton (Snuneymuxw), Bob Colclough (NR Estuary Log Storage Association), Rob Lawrance (City of Nanaimo) Steven Baillie (DFO-Stock Assessment), Matt Kellow (VIU), Louise Shuker (Community, BC water Funders Collaborative, BC Freshwater Legacy Initiative), Julie Pisani (Regional District of Nanaimo, DWWP), Jean-Michel Hanssens (Community Stewardship Advocate), June Ross (VIWCC), Douglas Wood (Port of Nanaimo-Health, Safety, and Environmental Manager), Karalae Cantara (DFO), Pam Jorgenson (Mosaic Forest Management), Mike Squire (City of Nanaimo, Manager of Water Resources).

### **1) Brief Introductions**

### **2) Approval of Agenda**

- Port of Nanaimo Oil Spills and Slicks – Louise Shuker added under business arising from the notes
- Agenda approved

### **3) Meeting Chair – Louise Shuker**

### **4) Approval of July 22, 2020 meeting minutes with amendments**

- Minutes were reviewed and approved with one change under Nanaimo Estuary Geese Update: “Of the 1120 geese, 579 geese were recorded between Lantzville and Qualicum.”

### **5) Business Arising from Notes**

- **Mission and Vision Roundtable Discussion** – Kayla Harris
  - i. The group was each an opportunity to discuss their rationale for their mission and vision statements that had been provided to the Google Doc for collaboration.
  - ii. June shared that she reviewed the statements that had been provided after the Strategic Planning Session in November of 2019 and chose parts of several

- that fit into her mission and vision drafts. The idea was to be more inclusive in the language for the mission and vision rather an exclusive
- iii. There was some discussion around the word lobbying. It was identified that for charity organizations involved on the Roundtable, having the word lobbying in the mission or vision for the Roundtable may affect their ability to continue to sit as a participant on the Roundtable.
  - iv. Suggestions were made that instead of using the word *lobbying*, that *advocating* or *supporting* may be better words to use that would not have such significant implications for some participants on the Roundtable.
  - v. There was also discussion around the word stakeholder being removed.
  - vi. There was discussion around the word *planning* being removed or reworded as it is beyond the scope of the Roundtable. Further discussions continued to discuss the different meanings of planning and the various processes that planning can entail such as engagement, contributing, commenting, visioning. The language needs to be finessed to ensure that it is made clear that the group is aiming toward collaborative activities within the watershed.
  - vii. Discussion was added to “engaging in” to “engaging with” from one of the statements.
  - viii. There was also discussion around the word *groups* to have more of an open-ended community and inclusive approach. *Interested parties* was provided as an alternative suggestion.
  - ix. There was quite a lot of consistency with the language as the mission and vision statements evolved through the drafting process.
  - x. It was mentioned that the guiding principles statement in the terms of reference may be the place to provide a longer more detailed description of key principals rather than in the mission and vision.
  - xi. There was some discussion on the length of the mission and vision statements. There seemed to be more interest in having the statements be shorter and more concise rather than longer if possible.
  - xii. There was discussion to include some wording on sustainable or responsible agriculture. This would likely fit under land use management and sustainable land use.

- xiii. Rather than having a separate meeting to address the mission and vision for the NRWR, the next separate meeting will be to continue with the Strategic Planning deliverables.
- xiv. It was decided that Kayla will draft the mission and visions statements one sentence each and send out via an email chain for discussion prior to the upcoming Strategic Planning Session. The mission and vision will be brought forth for final approval at the next regular meeting on September 17, 2020. Note: The regular meeting is separate from the Strategic Planning Meeting on Tuesday September 22, 2020.
- **Financial Update** – Paul Chapman
  - 1. From the previous balance of \$3089.64 of which \$24.17 was allocated to Rivers Day bus transportation. Interest from the account, gained \$0.14. The current balance is \$3089.78.
- **New Roundtable Participant Request** – Julie Pisani
  - 1. Julie presented a short bio on Jennifer Archer who is a resident in the cedar area that is interested in joining the Roundtable.
  - 2. Jennifer is a lawyer by training and focusses currently on reconciling indigenous and non-indigenous water laws. She works as a program manager for the BC Freshwater Legacy Initiative, which is a philanthropic initiative that has several funding sources that is in place to provide capacity building for watershed governance initiatives across BC. She is involved in a variety of community-based initiatives through her work but also separate to her work.
  - 3. She is an advisor on the steering committee for the Koksilah Water Sustainability Scoping Initiative, a government to government partnership established in February 2020 between Cowichan Tribes and BC FLNRORD.
  - 4. Jennifer is also on the BC Ministry of Environment Committee of water monitoring and recording.
  - 5. Jennifer is an advisor to Watersheds BC, a new province-wide capacity building initiative which seeks to support, enable, and learn from innovative local approaches to watershed governance. Watersheds BC is a partnership between the Legacy Initiative, the First Nations Fisheries Council Water for Fish Program and the POLIS Water Sustainability Project.
  - 6. Jennifer has lived in the Cedar area since 2016 and is interested in connecting with locals and contributing in the Nanaimo River watershed
  - 7. The Roundtable was supportive of having Jennifer Archer join the NRWR.
  - 8. We will need to update the participant list for the Roundtable in the near future to ensure that the list is current.

- **Nanaimo Estuary Geese Fencing Update** – Andrew McNaughton
  - i. A Guardians of the Mid-Island Estuaries Society newsletter was provided to the group as an attachment prior to the meeting. The newsletter will be saved as an attachment to the final PDF version of the minutes.
  - ii. Guardians of the Mid-Island Estuary Society have been out in the estuary during the week.
  - iii. Andrew will provide an update in more detail at the next meeting.
- **Port of Nanaimo Oil Spills and Slicks** – Louise Shuker
  - i. Darryl Jones of Jones Marine has expressed interest in partnering with the Port Authority initiatives. Jones Marine has a tractor tug in the Port of Nanaimo and does deep sea pilot work.
  - ii. Discussion continued to suggest that Darryl Jones connect with the Port of Nanaimo, particularly Captain Singh. Darryl had mentioned that he may be interested in assisting with the initiatives around oil spills and slicks in the Port of Nanaimo.
  - iii. **Action Item:** Louise can provide an introductory email between Jones Marine and the Port of Nanaimo.

## 6) New Business

- **River's Day** – Paul Chapman
  - i. 2020 Rivers Day will be virtual rather than in person. The event will run for one week from September 21-27<sup>th</sup>. Deb Beck with the City of Nanaimo is coordinating the event and Julie Pisani is assisting with the planning of the event as well. If anyone has any video links or other links to share for content that a river focused. Please share any opportunities for community members to participate or get engaged in anyway with activities happening in and around the Nanaimo River. They can be forwarded to Paul and Paul will in turn pass the information on to Deb to work into the schedule of events.
- **Nanaimo Estuary Eelgrass Mapping Project** – Andrew McNaughton
  - i. Chris Zamora of Aquaparian Environmental to see where they are at with the eelgrass mapping. Field work is completed. The mapping component is not yet complete. They have observed that the area of eelgrass is expanding. The channel on the west side at the front of the Snuneymuxw First Nation reserve lands is diminishing.
  - ii. Andrew will provide more of an update at a later meeting.

- **CABIN Update** – Steve Baillie
  - i. Steve met with Rosie Barlak and Paul Williams from the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, and Steve Adams from Mosaic on August 10<sup>th</sup> to inspect the proposed CABIN (Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network) sites in the Nanaimo River and select 8 for sampling. The group was able to view all that they wanted to and picked out two tributary sites below First Lake and two mainstem sites below the Island Highway.
  - ii. In addition to these sites, Rosie will be sampling a site on Haslam Creek. She has assembled sample crews to complete the field work. Sampling will be taking place on August 31 with one crew left on standby for September 1st if not all sites were completed. DFO will be paying for the sample processing costs.

**7) Next Meeting:**

- **Thursday September 17, 2020 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Regular monthly NRWR Zoom Meeting**
- **Tuesday September 22, 2020 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm meeting specifically for Strategic Planning**

**8) Adjourned: 2:13 pm**